

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **New Property Owner Has Building Burned to the Shell**

**Santa Ana** –The owner of Allstate Services Environmental, Inc. of Corona Stacey Phelps got more than her share of problems when she became a commercial property owner this year. She also became a landlord, and had her location burn to the ground all before the first loan payment was made.

When Phelps purchased her current location in October 2001, she expected the existing rental tenant to help defer costs and she expanded the property to include a training room and more office space. She soon discovered her existing tenant was delinquent in his rent. Then in February upon completion of 4,000 square feet of new office space, a fire occurred in the building and all was burned to the shell, except the suite occupied by the delinquent tenant. Phelps currently occupies what was once the rental suite and is overseeing the \$250,000 fire rehabilitation project. Phelps purchased the property with assistance from the U. S. Small Business Administration 504 loan program.

Allstate Services Environmental, Inc. was established in 1995 to provide lead-based paint consulting and training services. The business has grown from 2 employees to 23 professionals and has expanded services to include industrial hygiene services, lead hazard consulting, toxic mold consulting and general contracting with an environmental emphasis. The company has field offices in San Diego, Phoenix, and Brooklyn.

Allstate Environmental entered SBA's 8(a) program in 1999. SBA's 8(a) Business Development Program provides management and technical assistance, networking and federal contracting opportunities to socially and economically disadvantaged businesses.

Phelps is a Cal-EPA Registered Environmental Assessor, Certified Asbestos Consultant and an EPA Certified Lead Risk Assessor. She also co-authored <u>Allstate Services: Lead Safe Home Program.</u> The Lead Safe Home Program is a customized, detailed protocol for a single family lead risk assessment, with recommendations for lead hazard exposure reduction. Phelps is the new mother of an eight month old boy and a resident of Corona.

Stacey Phelps will be recognized for her business success on October 17, 2002 at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario by the U.S. Small Business Administration as part of the SBA's salute to Minority Enterprise Development.